

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 PRS-01 RSC-01 /033 W

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R 031455Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0481

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID GV US

SUBJECT: DIAKITE VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 021795 (NOTAL) AND PREVIOUS

1. MOUSSA DIAKITE, CHAIRMAN OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION WITH AMERICAS, DEPARTED CONAKRY JAN 31 ACCOMPANIED BY OFFICIAL DELEGATION ON VISIT TO CANADA AND THEREAFTER TO WASHINGTON. DELEGATION CONSISTS ALSO OF ALIOUNE DRAME, MINISTER OF PLAN; DR. KEKOURA CAMARA, MINISTER OF LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES; AND SEKOU CAMARA, SECRETARY OF STATE COMMITTEE.

2. DIAKITE CALLED ME ASIDE AT AIRPORT FAREWELL CEREMONY TO MAKE RENEWED REQUEST REGARDING PROJECTED AID PROGRAM IN GUINEA. HE RECALLED HIS PREVIOUS CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR TODMAN JAN 17 (CONAKRY 0073, NOTAL) AND EMPHASIZED ONCE MORE THAT HE VERY MUCH HOPED TO SIGN OR INITIAL IN WASHINGTON SOME KIND OF AGREEMENT REGARDING AID AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM AT FARANAH, TO WHICH GUINEANS HAD GIVEN THEIR ASSENT IN PRINCIPLE. THIS MATTER OBVIOUSLY OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO DIAKITE, AND EMBASSY REITERATES ITS RECOMMENDATION MADE PARA 3 CONAKRY 0073, THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE BE DONE IN WASHINGTON TO DRAW UP SOME KIND OF JOINT STATEMENT THAT DIAKITE CAN SIGN OR INITIAL. IN NUMEROUS CONTACTS WITH STATE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS, EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE REPEATED DEPT'S CAVEAT TO AMBASSADOR BAH THAT IT MOST UNLIKELY FORMAL AID AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED AT
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THIS TIME (STATE 021795).

3. ALSO AT AIRPORT CEREMONY, STATE COMMITTEE OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR PL480 MATTERS (MOUNTAGA KEITA) TOLD ME THAT DIAKITE HAS BEEN FULLY BRIEFED ON GUINEAN REQUEST FOR FY75 PL480 TITLE I COMMODITIES. GOG OFFICIAL STRESSED THAT GUINEANS STRONGLY HOPE TO RECEIVE RICE UNDER 1975 PROGRAM IN PREFERENCE TO CORN, WHICH THEY AWARE IS IN SHORT SUPPLY. WE FULLY EXPECT THAT DIAKITE AND DELEGATION WILL RAISE PL 480 MATTERS AS WELL.

4. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED STATE 023451 (NOTAL), REQUESTING STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF GUINEAN PL 480 TITLE I REQUESTS. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION IN NEXT FEW DAYS AND SUBMIT REPLY BEFORE DIAKITE ARRIVES WASHINGTON.

5. ON BASIS MOST RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH GUINEANS, INCLUDING AIRPORT MEETING WITH DIAKITE, IT SEEMS THAT EXACT ITINERARY FOR US VISIT NOT YET COMPLETELY FIXED. DIAKITE MENTIONED FEB 8 AS DATE HIS ARRIVAL WASHINGTON. DELEGATION PREVIOUSLY PLANNED TO VISIT ALSO PITTSBURGH AND HOUSTON FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH CBG AND SOGUIP (PETROLEUM) US PARTNERS, BUT FINAL PLANS FOR THESE VISITS APPARENTLY NOT FIXED EITHER. CBG OFFICIAL IN CONAKRY INFORMS US THAT AT PRESENT ONLY STATE COMMITTEE SECRETARY SEKOU CAMARA EXPECTED TO VISIT PITTSBURGH.

7. WE HAVE NO PRECISE INFORMATION ON WHAT SUBJECTS DIAKITE WILL RAISE IN CANADA. ONE LIKELY SUBJECT IS OF COURSE CANADIAN PRIVATE FINANCING OF TRANS-GUINEAN RAILROAD. THERE IS INCREASING SPECULATION IN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES HERE THAT GOG IS DISAPPOINTED IN CANADIAN FOLLOW-THROUGH ON AGREEMENT PREVIOUSLY SIGNED WITH 2 CANADIAN FIRMS FOR RAILROAD FINANCING AND CONSTRUCTION (CONAKRY 1666).
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